

**Department of Historic Resources
Reconnaissance Level Survey**

Accomack

DHR Id#: 001-0027-0005

Resource Identification

Property Name(s): WFF # A-046B - Jet Fuel Storage Tank
{ Current}
Property Date: 1953
Address(s): North Runway Access Road {}
County/Independent City: Accomack
City: Chincoteague
State, Zip: Virginia 23337
USGS Quad Name: CHINCOTEAGUE WEST
Surrounding area: Rural

National Register Eligibility Status
Property is Historic (50 years or older)

Resource Description

Ownership Status: Public - Federal
Acreage: 0.5

Primary Resource Exterior Component Description:

<u>Component</u>	<u>Comp Type/Form</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Material Treatment</u>
Chimneys	Chimneys - None		
Foundation	Foundation - Slab	Concrete	Foundation - Poured
Porch	Porch - None		
Roof	Roof - Gable	Metal	Roof - Corrugated
Structural System			Structural System - Unknown

Site Description: Located in an overgrown, wooded area; north of runway 10-28 and west of N.O.A.A. site.

WUZIT Count:

<u>No.</u>	<u>Wuzit Types</u>	<u>Historic?</u>
1	Air-Related	Historic

NR Resource Count:

Individual Resource Information

WUZIT: Air-Related

Est. Date of Construction:	1953 {Owner/written data}	Accessed?	No	Not accessible
Primary Resource?	Yes	Number of Stories:	0.0	
Architectural Style:	Other	Condition:	Deteriorated	
Interior Plan Type:	Other	Threats to Resource:	None Known	

Description: This structure is not visible due to dense overgrowth of trees and brush. Access to the tank is through the structure pictured, that consists of a concrete basin partially sunken into the ground and covered with a gable roof. . The roof and gable ends are clad with corrugated metal. A rectangular metal hatch, placed on the long side of the roof, provides access to the interior.

Cemetery Information

Bridge Information

National Register Eligibility Information

Historic Context(s): Military/Defense

Historic Time Period(s):..... S- The New Dominion (1941- Present)

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Significance Statement: This structure, built in 1953, is one of two sunken tanks originally used to store 567,000 gallons of jet fuel for the Chincoteague Naval Auxiliary Air Station (CNAAS). It is identified as a "Jet Fuel Storage Tank," one of two such structures, on the 1953 "Station Development Map – Naval Auxiliary Air Station, Naval Aviation Ordnance Test Station, Chincoteague, Virginia" by the U.S. Navy. The tank is located on the north side of the main east-west runway, in the northeast corner of the Wallops Flight Facility (WFF) main base and is no longer in use. The area surrounding the two sunken tanks has been allowed to overgrow with vegetation and they are now located within a wooded area.

The building is representative of a secondary structure associated with an Military/Defense property type that gained importance in the New Dominion (1945-present) period. The building was one of several structures constructed as part of the Chincoteague Naval Auxiliary Air Station (CNAAS) shortly after the end of World War II. Established in 1943, CNAAS was used as a training base for Navy aircraft carrier squadrons that would be serving in the Pacific theater of World War II, and to enable Civil Air Patrol to conduct antisubmarine operations off the Atlantic coast. In 1946, the U.S. Navy expanded the mission of CNAAS to include the Naval Air Ordnance Test Station (NAOTS). By 1949, the U.S. Navy discontinued aircraft carrier training and in 1951 CNAAS became a Naval Air Facility, with a primarily-research based mission that corresponded with the mission of NAOTS until the base was closed in 1959. In 1959, the ownership of CNAAS was transferred to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and was renamed Wallops Station.

The Jet Fuel Storage Tank has been evaluated both as a contributing resource in a historic district and as an individual resource. Issues of significance, integrity, and district boundaries were carefully considered. A proposed district comprising this resource lacks integrity of design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association due to the removal of the majority of buildings from the period of significance (1936 to 1959) and the construction of later buildings. Thus a historic district here is not eligible under Criterion A, B, C, or D.

As an individual resource, it is not eligible for listing in the National Register or the Virginia Landmarks Register under Criterion A, B, C, or D as it is not associated with a significant event or individual at the local, state or national level; it does not embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic values, or represent a significant or distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; nor does this property have the potential for providing additional information in history or prehistory.

The resource retains its integrity of location and design. The advanced deterioration of the structure's site has negatively affected its integrity of materials, workmanship, and feeling. Although remaining in its historic location, the structure's integrity of setting and association has been adversely affected by the changes made to the surrounding setting of the base of which it was a part; by 2004, the majority of buildings of this period have been demolished, changing the historic character of the physical environment of the structure's historic context.

Bibliographic Documentation

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Reference #: 1

Bibliographic RecordType: Map

Author: U.S. Navy

Citation Abbreviation:

Notes: "Map of Navy Auxiliary Air Station and Naval Ordnance Test Station, Chincoteague, Virginia."
1950.

Reference #: 2

Bibliographic RecordType: Map

Author: Giffles and Valet

Citation Abbreviation:

Notes: Giffels and Valet, Engineers and Architects, Detroit, Michigan. "General Plot Plan – Auxiliary
Air Station, Chincoteague, Virginia." 1942.

Reference #: 3

Bibliographic RecordType: Map

Author: U.S. Navy

Citation Abbreviation:

Notes: "Station Development Map – Naval Auxiliary Air Station, Naval Aviation Ordnance Test
Station, Chincoteague, Virginia." 1953.

Ownership Information

Graphic Media Documentation

<i>Medium</i>	<i>Depository ID #</i>	<i>Photo Depository</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>File Name</i>
35mm B&W	21525	DHR	2004/07/99	Frames 21-25

Cultural Resource Management (CRM) Events

CRM Event # 1,

Cultural Resource Management Event: Reconnaissance Survey

Date: 2004/07/99

Organization or Person: URS Group

VDHR Project ID # Associated with Event: .. 2003-0571

CRM Event Notes or Comments: 200 Orchard Ridge Drive
Gaithersburg, MD 20878

CRM Event # 2,

Cultural Resource Management Event: Reconnaissance Survey

Date: 2003/08/08

Organization or Person: URS Group

VDHR Project ID # Associated with Event: .. 2003-0571

CRM Event Notes or Comments: 7101 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 700
Bethesda, MD 20814